

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-30

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FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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S E C R E T JERUSALEM 972

EXDIS

SECTO 529

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR ASSAR

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME TO CENTO
SYG ASSAR.

BEGIN MESSAGE:

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

AS THE RESULT OF AN AMERICAN PROPOSAL WHICH I
INTRODUCED IN MY MEETING WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD
YESTERDAY ON THE KEY QUESTION OF THE LOCATION OF THE
SYRIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT LINE, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE
TO MAKE MAJOR LAST MINUTE PROGRESS TOWARD AN AGREEMENT
BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL ON THE DISENGAGEMENT OF THEIR
MILITARY FORCES. I HAVE NOW RETURNED TO ISRAEL TO
SEEK ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ACCEPTANCE OF THIS PROPOSAL.

IN VIEW OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT
I MUST REMAIN IN THE AREA INTO NEXT WEEK IN A MAJOR
EFFORT TO RESOLVE THIS AND THE OTHER REMAINING DIFFI-
CULT ISSUES OF A DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT BEFORE I
RETURN TO WASHINGTON. I HAVE THEREFORE ASKED DEPUTY
SECRETARY RUSH TO CHAIR NEXT WEEK'S CENTO MEETING

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ON MY BEHALF. HE IS FULLY INFORMED OF THE VIEWS I HAD

INTENDED TO SET FORTH DURING OUR MEETING AND OF THE
GREAT IMPORTANCE I ATTACH TO THE ROLE OF CENTO.

I HAD LOOKED FORWARD WITH SPECIAL ANTICIPATION
TO THIS MEETING OF CENTO--THE FIRST TO BE HELD SINCE
I BECAME SECRETARY OF STATE--AND ALSO TO THE
OPPORTUNITY IT WOULD PROVIDE FOR ANOTHER DISCUSSION
BETWEEN US. I AM CERTAIN YOU WILL APPRECIATE, HOWEVER,
THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MISSION I AM PRESENTLY ENGAGED
IN, NOT ONLY TO THE CENTO REGION BUT TO GLOBAL PEACE.
I KNOW I CAN COUNT ON YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE
REASONS WHY I FELT I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO STAY HERE
AND PURSUE THE EFFORTS I AM ENGAGED IN AT THIS CRUCIAL
STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

I AM SENDING A SIMILAR MESSAGE TO THE OTHER CENTO
FOREIGN MINISTERS.

WARMEST PERSONAL REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER
END MESSAGE
KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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